

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to define the general formula (B) as either (B-1) or (B-2) based upon now-canceled Claim 2; in addition the definition of p has been changed to "an integer of from 1 to 80" based upon the disclosure in the specification at page 10. Two dependent claims have been added, depending from Claims 1 and 3 respectively, calling for p to be an integer from 10 to 80; see page 10, fourth paragraph. The claims before the Examiner are Claims 1 and 3-5.

The provisional rejection of Claim 3 for nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1 and 5 of copending Application No. 11/212,688 is now moot following the incorporation of the limitation of Claim 2 into Claim 3.

The rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Sohma et al. '632 is rendered moot by the enclosed submission of a verified English translation of the priority document for this application. Applicants here claim the benefit of priority of Japanese Application 2003-143914 filed May 21, 2003. Sohma et al. '632 has an effective date of November 17, 2003. In view of the enclosed submission, Sohma et al. '632 is no longer de jure prior art and the rejection should be withdrawn.

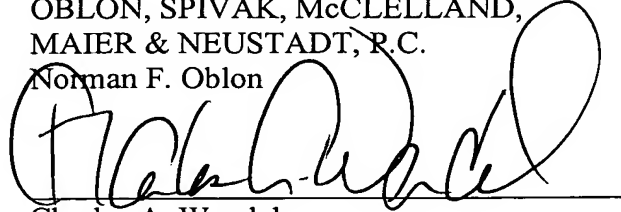
The rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Asano et al. '850 is also respectfully traversed. As indicated above, the independent claims have been modified to incorporate the limitation of Claim 2 with the further change that p is 1 to 80. (New Claims 4 and 5 as noted above call for p to be 10 to 80.) The Examiner had interpreted the prior art showing a polymer with Applicants' p as 0. There is no teaching or suggestion in the reference to a polymer construction where p in the present claims is other than 0. The rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging receipt of a certified copy of the priority document and for citing references submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in immediate condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Charles A. Wendel, is written over the printed name and firm name.

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